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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 09/919,197) TC/A.U.: 1635
Applicant: Crooke et al) Examiner: Sean McGarry
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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action, made final, dated June 25, 2003. A Petition to Extend the Time for Response under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) (1) for one month from Sept. 25, 2003 to Oct. 27, 2003 (Oct. 25, 2003 falling on a Saturday) and an authorization to charge the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(a) (1) are filed herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that the examiner consider and enter the following amendments, which are believed to resolve all outstanding issues and are presented in good form. Alternatively, Applicants request that these amendments be entered for the purpose of simplifying the issues upon appeal.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Certification of Facsimile Transmission

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 27, 2003.

Signature Diana M. Waligun
Typed Name Diana M. Waligun

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